

Approved For Release 2004/02/04 : CIA-RDP84-00933R000100130012-6

ODP # 81-1283

24 SEP 1981

FYI

EO 12812

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Office of Data Processing

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FROM:

Chief, [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: Request Feasibility Study for Priority
Expansion and Upgrading of [REDACTED] Terrorism
Computer System

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1. [REDACTED]

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DDO requests a feasibility study be conducted by your office on the priority expansion and upgrading of the [REDACTED] terrorism computer system. The [REDACTED] Group is currently supported by the community-oriented, ODP-developed [REDACTED] system. Outlined in the following paragraphs are the current capabilities and projections for upgrading/expanding [REDACTED] Where possible the plan calls for incorporating the National Foreign Assessment Center's Agency-oriented system, [REDACTED] into a single community-oriented system.

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2. The [REDACTED] system runs on a PDP 11/45 computer and can support up to 16 terminal users. These users are both inside and outside the Agency. Six terminals outside the Agency are now on line with [REDACTED] and the other ten will be connected to various customers within the next few months. Additional customers beyond those 16 are interested in acquiring access to [REDACTED]

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3. The data files currently in [REDACTED] are:

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b. Articles and notes which have appeared in the "Weekly Situation Report on International Terrorism". Thus far the file contains the full texts of this publication from 1978 to present, and within the next few months all issues back to

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25X1 [] are scheduled to be added. This file is accessible by a keyword index system and by scan. This file should be "user friendly" with a quick response time. It should interact with our current word processing system. It should print excellent quality copies of the articles/notes.

25X1 c. Chronological summary descriptions of terrorist
25X1 events []. This is also in full text and is
25X1 retrievable by a keyword index system and by scan. This file
25X1 should be merged with NFAC's [] system. We will be able to
25X1 retrieve summaries either by [] keyword or scan or by
[] coded variable system. Parts of this will be available to
customers outside CIA. The summaries should be printed on good
quality paper, and we should be able to "send" summaries to users
via the computer system.

25X1 4. The [] system must be upgraded and expanded. As
the size of the three files currently in [] have been in-
creased the query response time has increased appreciably and will
continue to do so as the size increases. Response time will also
increase as more terminals come on line. Moreover, we have need
for additional data files to better serve our [] users.

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5. Expansion and upgrading of the system would add the following capabilities:

a. Response time for crisis management situations would be significantly improved. Currently, the response time is approximately three minutes. A maximum of 30 seconds is desired. The system would also provide priority processing to a selected group of users.

b. The system would be available on a 24-hour basis, seven days a week.

c. A backup system in case the primary system goes down would be provided.

d. Sufficient storage space and quick response time would be provided to allow for an orderly expansion of existing files and addition of new ones.

e. The capacity to accommodate the connection of up to 32 external terminals would be provided.

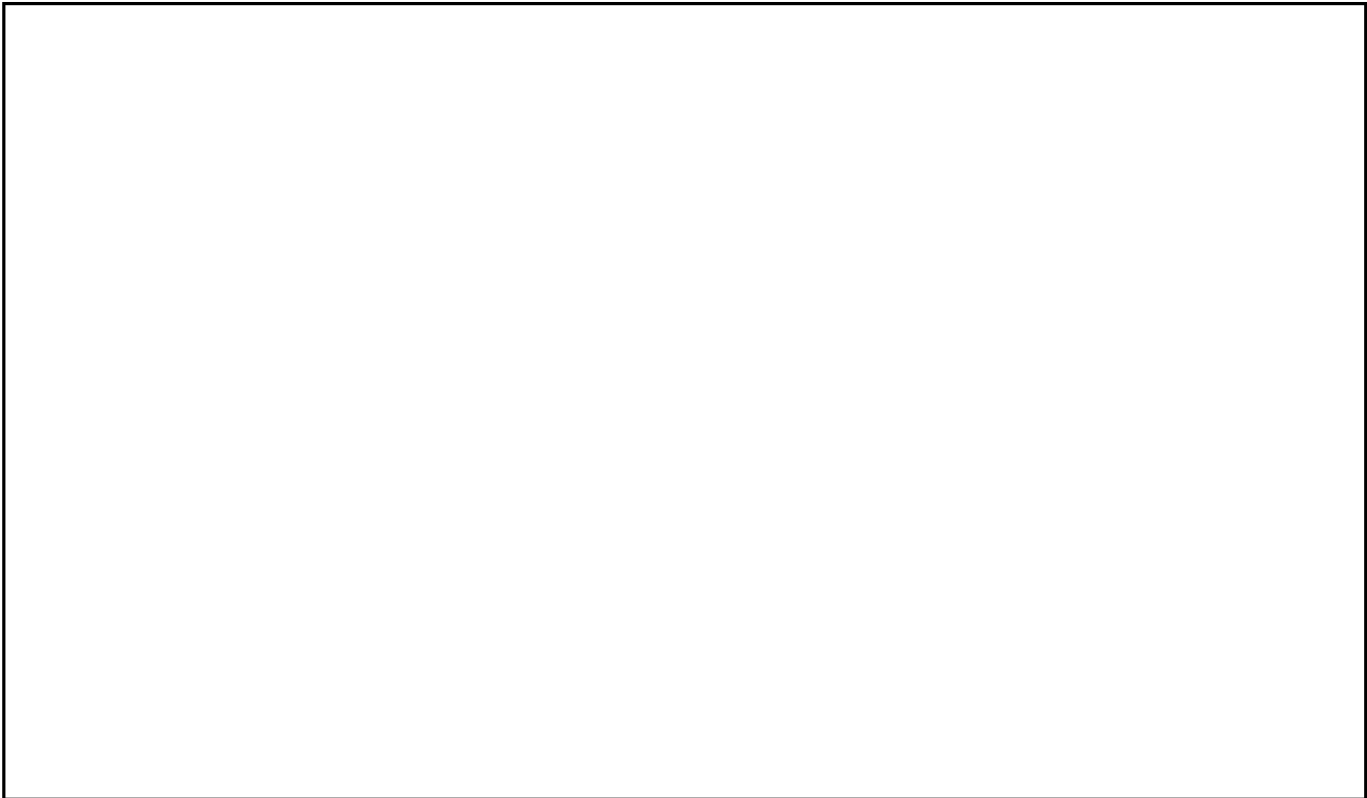
f. The user would be provided the capability to make ad hoc queries of the data base. The query language would be "user friendly" and easily learned by the unsophisticated user. Query by example procedures would be provided.

g. The system would have the capability and space to process statistical data.

h. The system would have the capacity and capability to accommodate and process specially designed models of different aspects of international terrorism.

i. The system would have a charting and graphing capability.

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7. The system would include capacity to allow for addition of other files which would be added as need arises.

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8. A major modification of the [] system would include the integration of NFAC's [] terrorism data base. The [] system is a large one and portions of it would be made accessible to [] customers.

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9. Although the above describes how we currently envision an upgraded and expanded [] system, we would be very interested in your thoughts on this system, for perhaps there are important features which could be added which we have not foreseen.

10. Terrorism has become a major global issue to which the current administration has directed much attention. The system must be significantly upgraded and expanded on an urgent basis to meet a broad spectrum of demands from the policy level, analytic level, and tactical level.

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